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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

Sub-Commission on Prevention of
Discrimination and Protection
of Minorities
Fiftieth session
Agenda item 12

REVIEW OF FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS IN FIELDS WHICH THE SUB-COMMISSION HAS BEEN OR MAY BE CONCERNED

Letter dated 27 August 1998 from the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Chairman of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities

I have the honour to draw your attention to one more falsification by the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Armenia at the current session of the Sub-Commission contained in his letter addressed to the Chairman of the Sub-Commission which was circulated by the secretariat under item 12 of the agenda as document E/CN.4/Sub.2/1998/39.

Without any intention to comment on the above-mentioned letter, which represents mere primitive verbiage around the issue of illegal arms supplies to Armenia and confirmed the lack of adequate arguments relating to the facts of such supplies mentioned in document E/CN.4/Sub.2/1998/31, I would like to focus on the attempt of the Permanent Representative of Armenia to delude the international community by misinterpreting the agenda of the current session as adopted by the Sub-Commission. To our surprise, while sub-item (e) (i) of item 12 of the agenda is entitled "Adverse consequences of the transfer of arms and illicit trafficking in arms on the enjoyment of human rights", and while the Sub-Commission in its resolution 1997/37 entitled "Illicit transfer of arms", adopted at the forty-ninth session, had expressed its deep concern

"... at the recurrence of armed conflicts exacerbated by the illicit transfer of arms, their incidence on the enjoyment of human rights and on the application of international humanitarian law, as well as by their adverse consequences for international and regional peace and security", the Permanent Representative of Armenia notes in his letter "... that illegal arms supplies has no place on the Sub-Commission's agenda which only refers to 'illicit trafficking in arms' having harmful effects on the enjoyment of human rights".

The Permanent Representative of Armenia airily falsifies the contents of an official document of a United Nations body, replacing them by his own interpretation. Such an approach demonstrates that the Armenian Government proceeds from the position of the achievement of its well-known aggressive and expansionist purposes by any means, even if they deviate not only from reality but also from elementary logic.

I would be grateful if you could circulate the present letter as an official document of the fiftieth session of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities under the relevant item of the agenda.

(Signed) S. EIVAZOVA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative